Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)

PARTNER TYPE:
Non-governmental organization

MEMBER SINCE:
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INSTITUTION BACKGROUND

The Clinton Health Access Initiative, Inc. (CHAI) is a global health organization committed to saving lives and reducing the burden of disease in low-and middle-income countries. CHAI work with their partners to strengthen the capabilities of governments and the private sector to create and sustain high-quality health systems that can succeed without its assistance.

CHAI works closely with governments and the private sector to scale up proven interventions and improve the effectiveness of malaria programs; provide operational support to expand diagnostic testing and increase access to treatment and; help governments strengthen disease surveillance and data analysis to improve interventions.

PARTNER INSTITUTION ENGAGEMENT WITH APMEN

In 2014, CHAI together with APMEN, Malaria Consortium and other partners co-developed MESA Track, a database for the malaria community where organizations/scientists can submit their research portfolio.

CHAI's long-standing engagement with governments and the private sector in the Greater Mekong Subregion is a strength that APMEN could leverage to scale up proven interventions and improve the effectiveness of malaria programs.

CORE EXPERTISE AND FUNCTIONS

Technical Support, Training and Operational Research

CHAI supports national malaria programs to accelerate progress towards malaria elimination by strengthening disease surveillance, improving management processes, and increasing access to optimal tools that limit transmission, cure disease, and prevent deaths.

CHAI directly supports national strategic planning processes in many countries to identify and resolve implementation issues. CHAI ensures alignment of the national plans with the World Health Organization's supported strategy, within the context of local community and health system structures

and challenges. This planning delivers a strategy document that serves both as an implementation roadmap and accountability mechanism.

CHAI works with governments to adopt appropriate case management policies and guidelines through community platforms and training and supervising community case management providers.

Case Management and Surveillance

CHAI is supporting Cambodia to eliminate malaria and address multi-drug resistance. They are working in selected provinces to develop robust surveillance systems, increase access to quality case management services, and strengthen capacity on grant and financial management. CHAI is also helping to target high-risk groups, such as migrant and mobile populations, to reduce the malaria burden in endemic provinces, and are helping to save the lives of women through improved access to lifesaving reproductive health care, including contraception. CHAI helped reactivate the village malaria worker (VMW) program, where thousands of VMWs were successfully re-enrolled through the expansion of an electronic payment scheme. This has significantly increased the number of malaria tests performed.

CHAI is supporting Lao PDR to reach its goal of malaria elimination by 2025. Working with the national malaria program, CHAI launched the country's subnational malaria elimination acceleration project in 2018. A dedicated team is now supporting provinces with the highest malaria burden. This helps strengthen program implementation and improved reporting timeliness that allows the malaria program to detect and promptly respond to malaria outbreaks. CHAI supported the rollout of case management and surveillance trainings to hundreds of Ministry of Health staff and healthcare workers and village malaria workers and has increased the number of tests conducted in the country.

CHAI is supporting Myanmar to build capacity to improve malaria surveillance and case management in support of its national plan to eliminate malaria by 2030. CHAI helped the Ayeyawady Region identify and map high-risk forest worksites through a risk factor study and began devising targeted plans for preventing new infections. CHAI assessed the Sagaing Region's programmatic gaps to inform future support. CHAI also completed the transition of the national electronic logistics management information system (mSupply), that strengthens commodity forecasting and distribution, to the national malaria program

CHAI is helping Viet Nam to expedite malaria elimination by 2030 by strengthening disease surveillance and case management. CHAI laid the groundwork for a sustainable approach to surveillance for elimination, including supporting the development of a costed surveillance roadmap and the beginnings of the Malaria Management System (MMS) information system that will integrate with the national notification system for 43 infectious diseases. Beyond surveillance, CHAI worked on improving case management practices in the highest-burden provinces healthcare worker trainings.

CHAI conducted a standardized surveillance system landscaping study between 2015 and 2016 in 16 countries worldwide (including Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam) to assess the readiness of their surveillance systems to support malaria elimination. It aimed to help countries identify surveillance-related gaps, prioritize solutions, and build systems sufficient for malaria elimination.

CHAI is also partnering with the Malaria Atlas Project (MAP) to support national malaria programs in Cambodia, India, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Viet Nam to produce rapidly updatable, high-resolution malaria risk maps to inform better targeting and stratification of intervention measures. Outputs are then shared with national malaria programs with supporting information on how best to use and interpret this information to improve strategic planning for elimination in each country and at the regional level.